## Guest Editor's Column: page 7





## Guest Editor's Model of the Month

(see pp. 2 & 4 for more details)

### **Division Meeting Schedule**

June 24, 2018 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm Old Greenford School / Porter Locomotive Works 7600 W. South Range Road Salem, OH 44460

July 15, 2018 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm Mon Valley Railroad Club 128 Pleasant Street Morgantown, WV 26505

August 19, 2018 - Division 2 Pienic, 12:30pm Henley Park Corner of Beaver & Broad Streets Leetsdale, PA 15143

### Bring'n'Brag

- Jan Anything goes Feb Railroad stations Mar Paper industry Apr Steam power (Jamboree) May \* no meeting \*
- Jun Hopper bottom cars
- Aug Structures
- Sep Lumber & Logging industry
- Oct Cabooses
- Nov Advertising & Signage

Submission Deadline for the next Flyer:

#### June 27, 2018

Get the Color Version of the Keystone Flyer as soon as it comes out and other Division 2 news flashes and announcements via email. Contact Susan Werner swerner48@yahoo.com Visit us on the World Wide Web at http://www.keystonedivision.org



# From the Super's Desk

Perhaps the single most significant attribute of the model railroading community is that we all volunteer. We have no paid professional leaders; we don't contract out for any services to the division. As far as I am aware, everything we do as model railroaders is developed,

conceived, and implemented by volunteers. If we were to take volunteers out of the equation, we wouldn't even have a hobby! A good part of our annual budget comes from the proceeds of the Jamboree. Please attend these events and be part of a great day of fun, and support Division 2. No income can mean no division. That doesn't sound fun at all! Without the "volunteers" of the Jamboree who make this happen each year, we just wouldn't exist. We should all be proud of this past Jamboree as one "for the ages" because of the great work of all the volunteers.

I think we all should be proud to be a part of the railroad modeling community – it is a large scale, fully functional, global hobby society that exists for and because of its volunteers – in other words, US! Sure, there are times that personalities clash, or someone's behavior isn't what it ought to be, or outside factors get in the way of someone doing their job. This shouldn't surprise us – after all, our division involves human beings, and we all know we are not perfect. Fortunately, we are able to look beyond, forgetting about what happened and move on. In the end, our hobby exists because there are people out there like you who are willing to volunteer when there is a need, and this railroad modeler is mighty grateful for each of you!

Nobody can volunteer forever, and I am extremely proud of our members who have recently volunteered. I would like to thank all our new and current volunteers. I am asking all of you in the Division to stand tall when the next opportunity presents itself to you, and to carry on the tradition. We are all behind you to help and support you. We need to do our best to keep this hobby strong and vibrant, until it is your turn to step in and do your best.

... Keith DeVault



Photo (by modeler) of prototype for "DIY barn".

### **Division Elected Officers**

#### Superintendent

Keith DeVault (304) 599-5261 devaultkj@comcast.net

### Asst. Superintendent, Meetings & Programs

Frank Benders fbenders@comcast.net

<u>Chief Clerk</u> George Pandelios (717) 503-3192 gpandelios@verizon.net

### **Division Appointed Officers**

#### <u>Treasurer</u>

Jeff Gregg (724) 348-5855 jwg625@comcast.net

#### Achievement Program

Dennis Vaccaro (724) 929-2190 vaccaro dennis@yahoo.com

Loren McCullough (724) 379-8596 lorenmcc@verizon.net

#### Webmaster & Membership

Tom Gaus (412) 731-8846 webmaster@keystonedivision.org Company Store Susan Werner (724) 379-8584 swerner48@yahoo.com

Bring'n'Brag Alden McBee agm@mcbando.com

#### Module Committee

Jerry Kyslinger (412) 608-3358 Jerry@Kyslinge<u>r</u>.com

#### Editor

Vagel Keller (412) 979-9102 vckeller@comcast.net

#### Jamboree Commitee

Jim Sacco Grier Kuehn Gary Carmichael ctyclsscs@aol.com gekuehn@comcast.net prorr@aol.com

The *Keyystone Flyer* is published ten times a year by Division Two of the National Model Railroad Association, Mid-Central Region. Subscription to the *Flyer* is included with your NMRA membership and sent via e-mail directly to each member who chooses to receive the newsletter in this format. Alternatively, you may also read the *Flyer* online, or download a copy onto your computer or mobile device by navigating to the link on the Division Two website [http://www.keystonedivision.org]. Members without internet access or an e-mail address may request a printed copy from the Division; please send your name, address, and phone number to: Vagel Keller, Editor, P.O. Box 5130, Pittsburgh, PA 15206.

Pike ads are available to publicize your home or club model rail empires for a \$15.00 yearly fee. You may supply artwork or have it produced by the editor for a nominal fee. Pike ads are also posted on the Division website.

# Jamboree Model Contest

## **Donald Austel**

Our annual Model Railroad Jamboree at Robert Morris Universi- Arley Mitchell won first place for Motive Power, with his pair ty features a model contest similar to the Bring-N-Brag contest of GP 39-2's, richly detailed, painted, and decaled for the Burwe hold at our regular monthly meetings, but with a twist: a lington Northern, engine nos. 2702 and 2719, lashed up to BN fourth, offbeat category in addition to the 3 "standard" categories - Structures, Rolling Stock, and Motive Power - to spur our modeling creativity. Reminder: this contest has nothing to do with our regular, monthly meeting Bring-n Brag contests, so the standings are not affected by the voting at the Jamboree.

There were six entries for the Structures category. Todd Seligman placed first with his scratchbuilt company houses in HO scale. Five additional entries were submitted by Jamboree attendees (whose identities went unrecorded -ed.): in HO scale

there was a boxcar converted into а stationary warehouse; a scratchbuilt duplex company house; the scratchbuilt Fulton Market and Blaine Depot Station (on the Western Maryland RR); and a kitbashed "DIY" barn using reclaimed reefer and livestock cars as



walls and pens, joined by a tin roof (after an existing prototype the modeler documented with photos, see pp. 1 & 2). There was also a richly detailed 1930s era oil filling facility in On30 scale, with pumpjack and tanks (more photos of select models on p. 6).

Grier Kuehn took first place in the Rolling Stock category, for his HO scale steel mill gondolas (pictured here on his nicely scenicked layout). Grier custom painted and lettered these Athearn blue box kits for Youngstown Steel and Wheeling Pittsburgh, weathered them with airbrush and powders, and added metal wheelsets, Kadee couplers, scale stirrups, and the coil loads.



There were two further HO scale entries in this category: one Susan Werner's ca. 1900 34' flatcar, scratchbuilt with styrene and stripwood (see p. 6); and a pair of B&O covered hoppers, both weathered, and the newer Chessie car tagged for the modern era.

caboose 10125. Two further entries included another pair of diesel locomotives, Penn Central 7045 and 7242, and a pair of Budd RDC cars from Rapido Trains, Inc., lettered for the CP.



Arley Mitchell's BN GP-39-2 set and caboose. Photo by Patrick Altdorfer.

The offbeat category at this Jamboree was the **3-in-1 Mini-**Module, which called for entrants to submit a diorama that incorporated all of the following items: a Figure, a Tree, and a piece of Pasta! Six creative entries were submitted in this category, and taking first place was - again! - Grier Kuehn, for his diorama depicting the loading of a P&LE gondola with "scrap" ditalini, linguine, and capellini - appropriately painted, weathered, and complemented by the other required scenic elements. Other entries depicted a pasta farmer; another scrap load; lumberjacks felling a tree (with a pasta noodle trunk) onto an out-

house; a City Classics workshop (?) with pasta signage and ductwork; and mountain climbers ignoring a pasta sign warning of "Danger: Bears."

Each winner received a nice wooden trophy for their wall at home. (as pictured at left). Thank you to each of you who voted for your favorite

entries, and especially to all those who submitted the entries to contest!

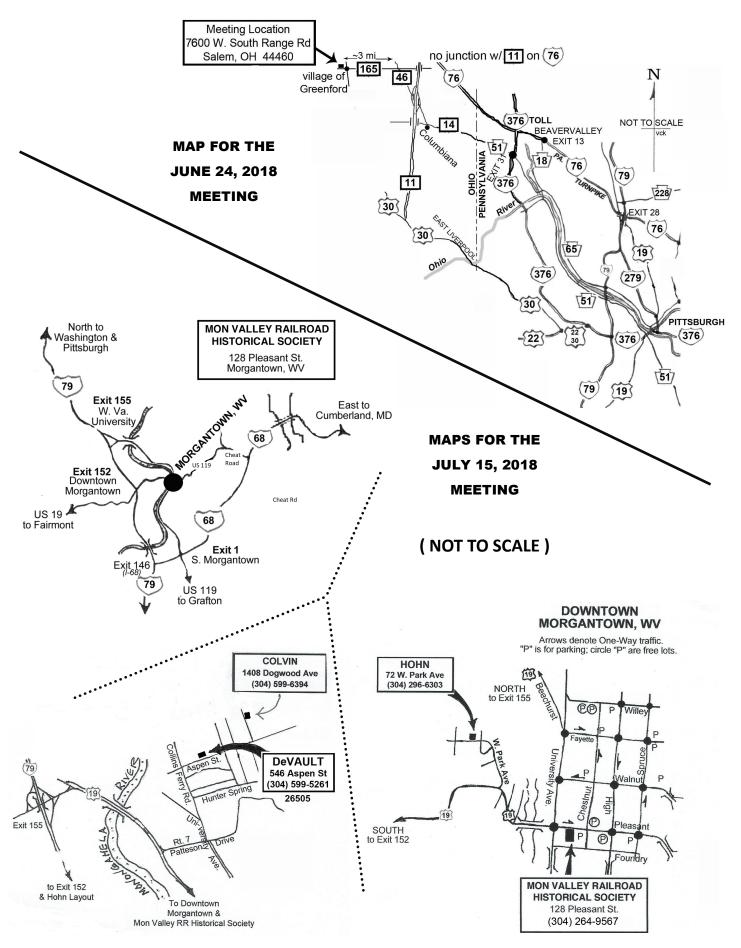


Grier Kuehn's winning 3-in-1 module entry; photo by Patrick Altdorfer.

			£1]
Name	pts	Name	pts
Jim Braum	21	Margie Meehan	8
Neal Schorr	19	George Pandelios	7
Dennis Vaccaro	13	Frank Benders	6
John Gallagher	12	Steve Ross	5
Mike Hohn	9	Jim Whipple	4







## **Public timetable**

## Jamboree News

June 9-10, 2018: **Great Scale Model Train Show**, Maryland State Fairgrounds (Exhibition Hall), 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD, 21093. Show times are Saturday, 9am-5pm and Sun. 10am-4pm. Adult Admission: \$10 both days, \$8 Sunday only; Family pass: \$20 both days, \$15 Sunday only. Kids 15 and under are admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, June 16, 2018, 5-9pm: Western PA Railroad & Transportation Museum Fundraiser, Teutonia Männerchor, 857 Phineas Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. Tickets: \$50 for RLHS members, \$75 for non-members., available through McKeesport Historical Society or Eventbrite, see guest editor's column (page 7) for more details.

July 21-22, 2018: Greenberg Train Show, Monroeville Convention Center, 209 Mall Blvd, Monroeville, PA 15146. Show times are 10am to 4pm both days. The Division 2 Free-Mo modular layout will be on display. Free Parking On-Site & Free Shuttle From Mall Lot. Adult Admission: \$10 Saturday, \$9 Sunday, on-site ticket sales cash only. NOTE: All Saturday tickets are good for <u>both</u> days. Kids 11 and under are admitted free and do NOT need a ticket.

<u>August 5-12, 2018</u>: **NMRA 2018 National Convention**, Kansas City, MO, www.kc2018.org. Awardees honored at the Jamboree: Superintendent Keith DeVault presents Alden McBee with the Division's "Modeler of the Year" award (right); George Pandelios receives his achievement certificate for "Model Railroad Author" (center); Division AP officer Dennis Vaccaro presents the NMRA "Golden Spike" awards to Laura and Richard Jodon (below). Photos by Vagel Keller.













**Model Contest:** Some of the fine work presented at the 2018 Jamboree. (Clockwise from top left): An oil siding in On30; Susan Werner's HO scratchbuilt flatcar, with detailed underbody; the scratchbuilt Fulton Market; the scratchbuilt duplex company house; the B&O covered hoppers; and the boxcar warehouse (except as noted photos by Vagel Keller).







Keystone Flyer

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## GUEST EDITOR COLUMN

## **Patrick Altdorfer**

When our longtime newsletter editor Vagel Keller informed the Executive Committee recently that he wanted to retire from his duties as *Keystone Flyer* editor, I volunteered to carry on this work when he rides off into the sunset. Vagel suggested that I guest edit an issue this year to get the hang of it, and the current issue is the result of our collaboration, as well as the contributions of our elected and appointed officers.

For those of you who do not already know me. I am a native of Pittsburgh, originally from the North Side (there's no "North Shore" in my worldview ). My first encounters with trains were during walks with my "grampap" near the Aviary, where we watched eastbound Penn Central freights traverse the cut through West Park as they left the yard at California Avenue.

But as with many of us, my nascent railfanning was interrupted by life, which took me to western Ohio for college, back to Pittsburgh for grad school, and then to Germany for 6 years, where my love for trains was rekindled. When I returned in 2002, I started to plan for a home layout, "breaking ground" in 2004 with the construction of benchwork. Then I tore that all up in 2005 when we moved to a new house, which was an opportunity to rethink the layout both physically and thematically. Scenes like this one in Oakland inspire me to "keep it local" with a focus on western PA in the transition era.



**Dismantling the Bellefield Steam Plant Trestle:** 2 years after the last coal hopper was shunted into the "Cloud Factory" by an aging Plymouth critter, crews on this brisk October morning are cutting up tracks and lifting crossties on the trestle. Within 2 days the trestle was gone, and Neville Street was soon widened to 2 lanes where the trestle had choked vehicle traffic to one lane for so many years. Photo by Patrick Altdorfer.

Meanwhile I was Inspired by at the 2006 World's Greatest Hobby show in Monroeville to join this group and the Free-Mo modular group, building my 2' x 4' brewery module in short order, thereby combining two of my passions: finely crafted beer and slow-moving, heavy equipment that is difficult to stop. (What could possibly go wrong?)

Over the past few years, I have begun to operate on local model railroads, with varying degrees of competence, but always having fun! And while I "still play with trains" on OPL ("other people's layouts"), the work on my home layout is on hiatus. Of course, acquisition continues apace, because as soon as we get some more winter weather, I aspire to return to the basement!

n the meantime, I am also involved in the newly chartered Steel City Chapter of the *Railway and Locomotive Historical Society* (www.rlhs.org). The focus of this chapter overlaps with many of our members' own interests in the prototypes (and

modeling) of Rust Belt railroading. The main project the Steel City Chapter is working on is the <u>establishment of a railroad history muse-</u> <u>um in McKeesport</u> to present in one central place an overview of our region's industrialization, as mirrored by the rail and river transit



networks of the Monongahela and Youghiogheny Rivers and environs. As you might imagine, we plan to build a model railroad at the museum as one of the exhibits that will bring this history alive for the visitors. To that end, the chapter is hosting a <u>fundraising event</u> this summer to raise awareness of and money for the museum. The event is scheduled for <u>Saturday</u>, June 16, 2018 at Teutonia Männerchor (the German social club on the North Side), <u>from 5-9pm</u>. If you are interested to hear more about the event or the museum, please call (412-559-3079) or email me at patrick.altdorfer@gmail.com. You can purchase tickets (\$50 RLHS members, \$75 non-members) online at Eventbrite or with a check (memo: "Roundhouse Fundraiser") via US Mail to the McKeesport Preservation Society, P.O. Box 3373, McKeesport, PA, 15134.

Your thoughts on this issue of the *Keystone Flyer* are welcome, as are any features you might like to see in the *Flyer* in the future. As Vagel recently wrote, e-distribution allows us to expand the newsletter somewhat, so your submissions could help us to provide expanded events listings, "Tips & Tricks" column, or perhaps a "News from the Ops Front" on the trials

and tribulations of the operating sessions on various storied local roads.



Keystone Flyer

*The Keystone Flyer* Division Two, NMRA, MCR P.O. Box 223 Gastonville, PA 15336



NEXT MEETING - June 24, 2018 Old Greenford School / Porter Locomotive Works 7600 West South Range Road Salem, OH 44460

